

VIRGINIA

GAZETTE.

With the freshest Advices,

Foreign and Domestic.



A more particular Account of William Smith, who was executed for Forgery on the 4th of October last.

(See Gazette No. 5.)

THIS unfortunate Malefactor was the only Son of the Reverend John Smith, Rector of Kilmore, worth 300 l. per Annum, in the County of Meath, in the Kingdom of Ireland, and much esteemed for his Virtue and Charity. This good Father gave his Son a very liberal Education; but he died too soon to accomplish his Child's Settlement in the World, leaving a Widow, this Son and one Daughter, and 2700 l. Sterling, to be equally shared amongst them.

Upon the Father's Demise, it was advised to continue William at School, 'till it should be proper to send him to Trinity College, Dublin; or put him out Apprentice to some reputable, genteel Employment. But his Mother doted on him so much, that she could never be persuaded to let him go from her; so that instead of being advantageously situated in the World, he was continually permitted every rural Recreation, 'till he grew too old to submit to the Controul of a Superior. However this Way of Life does not seem to have contributed so much to the young Man's Destruction as what follows.

When he was about 22 Years old, he contracted an intimate Acquaintance with one, who soon after married his Sister, and, having injured his own Fortune by Law-suits, was obliged to leave his Abode, and lived upon this Youth's Money 'till it was exhausted also; and then fled to England, and shipped himself in the Squadron, called *The Royal Family Privateer*, leaving his Brother Smith only a Bond for his Debt, which was never discharged.

By these Means Smith was reduced to a very necessitous Condition; he hastened to Dublin to seek for Bread, his Mother denying any further Assistance, lest she should utterly impoverish herself. And his Poverty was at last so great, that it broke down the Fences of Honesty. For, being taken into the Office of Mr. William Bull, an eminent Attorney of that City, who out of Regard to the Memory of his Father deceased, articted him to be his Clerk, he took the Advantage of his Master's Absence in the Country upon Business, and forged a Letter in his Master's Name, directed to Messieurs Swift and Company, Bankers in Dublin, desiring those Gentlemen to pay the said Smith 130 l. or thereabouts, (which they did in two 50 l. Notes, payable to Mr. William Bull, or Bearer, and the Remainder in Money;) he hastened with all Expectation to London, and negotiated these Notes with Messieurs Albert and Arnold Nesbit, Bankers in Coleman-street, of whom he received the Money, on the 16th of July, 1745, having first endorsed the Notes with the Name of William Bull.

He then, afraid of being discovered, entered himself on board the *Surprize*, a Man of War, commanded by Captain Webb, into whose good Graces he soon ingratiated himself so far, that he employed him as his Clerk; but was discharged the Service for some Practices that betrayed mean and dishonest Principles. After which he subsisted for some Time by forging Seamen's Tickets, five of which were produced against him in Court, and recorded.

The Money he got this Way was profusely and wickedly spent upon a noted Woman of the Town; which obliged him to seek for Employment in the Way of his Calling; and he was entertained by a worthy engrossing Stationer near Furnival's Inn; under whose good Example he applied himself diligently to Business, and shewed himself capable of acquiring an agreeable Livelihood; and by his graceful Demeanour, entertaining Conversation, and classical Knowledge, established himself in the general Esteem of his new Acquaintance.

But God was pleased to disable him with a severe Fit of Sickness; and contracted his Joints in such a Manner with the Rheumatism, that he could not procure his usual Support by Engrossing, which reduced him both in his Body and Cloaths. In which Condition, being met accidentally in the Street by one of the aforesaid Acquaintance, the Gentleman upon hearing his Tale clothed him from Head to Foot, in a decent Manner, and recommended him for Cure to an eminent Physician; who also made him perfectly whole. But, about this Time engaging with that notorious Villain Patterfon, who exceeded most People in the Art of Dissimulation; he never had the Gratitude to go either to the Doctor, or his Friend, to return them Thanks; and even joined with Patterfon and his Accomplices in one of their Schemes, to extort a considerable Sum from the same Physician; 'till quarrelling among themselves, he was deserted by them, and again left in a necessitous Condition. In which his Friend met him with very great Surprise, and was wrought upon a second Time by Smith's seeming Grief and lamentable Story of being oblig'd to sell his Cloaths to satisfy his Creditors, and to furnish Necessaries for Life; that he clothed him again, and ordered him to go and return the Doctor Thanks for his kind and effectual Assistance and Cure.

Smith thus equipped from Top to Toe, hastened to the Doctor's, was admitted into his Study, told him he was the Person whom he had cured by the Recommendation of Mr. —; and after the Doctor had kindly wished him Joy of his Health restored, and enquired after his Friend, (behold this Monster of Ingratitude!) he instantly pulled out a Pistol, presented it to the Doctor's Head; told him, he was an unfortunate Gentleman, and wanted Money, and threatened to blow out his Brains if

he did not instantly furnish him with five Guineas. To which the Doctor replied, with a good deal of Calmness, That he might act as he pleased with his Pistol; but he was sure he durst not fire it off: For, if he did and killed him, it was a Matter of Indifference to him, who had already one Foot in the Grave, and he was sure of being taken by the Servants, and as sure of being hang'd for it: Declared he would not give him the Money demanded: But advised him to walk off, and promised not to molest him. This undaunted Resolution, being more than expected, threw Smith into the utmost Confusion; so that reflecting on his ticklish Situation, and fearing he should be taken in such a villainous Act, he fell upon his Knees, and used his deceitful Eloquence so artfully, that, by his melancholy piteous Tale, he so moved the Compassion of the Doctor, that he put his Hand into his Pocket, gave him three Guineas for his present Relief, advised him to follow better Courses, and suffered him to depart unmolested.

Nor was the Fraud for which he suffered clear of the Sin of Ingratitude: It was a Forgery to defraud a poor Man that had frequently assisted him in his Necessity. — The Case was this, one Mr. Weekes received a Letter with a Bill of Exchange in it for 45 l. which he left with a Friend, 'till he should call for it, and received 10 l.

From this Time Mr. Smith resolved to try if he could not trick his Friend out of the expected Cash, by counterfeiting Mr. Weekes's manual Signature, by Way of Indorsement on the Bill of Exchange; which he accordingly did, as soon as he got it into his Hands, by intercepting the second Letter with the second Bill indorsed, as it is usual, directed to be left 'till called for at the Temple Exchange Coffee-house: And in this Villainy he was assisted by Mr. Weekes's Indisposition, who not being able to go out, desired Smith to enquire for it.

Having got the Bill, Smith not only indorsed it in Weekes's Name, but he also forged a Receipt for the Sum of 10 l. above-mentioned, received in Part of Payment; and went immediately and offered it to Mr. Jonathan Gurnell and Company, Merchants in London, upon whom it was drawn, and demanded the Money. But Mr. Gurnell declaring he did not chuse to pay the Money to any other than Mr. Weekes himself; and that if Mr. Weekes was sick in Bed, as reported, he would send his Clerk with the Money to him in the Morning, Smith gave him Directions to a Lodging which Weekes had been lately obliged to leave, and then made what Haste he could to these Lodgings, acquainted the Landlord with Mr. Gurnell's Intention, and assured him, that there was no other Way left to secure his own Debt than by permitting him to personate Mr. Weekes sick in Bed, that so he might get the remaining 35 l. in Possession, and pay himself. The Scheme took, Smith was admitted to Bed; the Clerk came in the Morning, and Smith so artfully disguised his Voice, and concealed his Person in the Bed, that he left the Money on the Table, and took a Receipt ready drawn up on the same Place. But as soon as the Clerk was off, he rose, and made directly off without paying the Landlord a Farthing. And, as he could not hope to hide himself from the Search of the Parties concerned, he resolved to make the best of his Way for Holland. But knowing that Sum would presently be consumed by his Manner of Life, and stimulated by the general Conversation of the Town, which ran upon a Prosecution entered in the King's Bench against Mr. Walpole, he was determined to supply his travelling Expences out of that Gentleman's Purse by some artful Scheme; before he set out upon his Journey. Therefore decking himself out in a very genteel Manner, he forges a Bond from Walter Patterfon, the Prosecutor of that Gentleman, to William Smith, conditioned for the Payment of 150 l. which bore the Appearance of a proper Attestation, and seemed to be obtained in a due Course of Legality.

With this Bond Smith posted down in a Chaise to Mr. Walpole's Seat at Frogmore in Berkshire; produced that Bond, pretended that he had, ignorant of the Purpose, lent that Sum to Patterfon, who, he since understood, borrowed it to carry on a fraudulent Prosecution against him; and to shew the Uprightness of his Intentions, added, That he was come on Purpose to assign the said Bond over to him, provided he thought it worth his While to put it immediately in Execution, as a Means effectually to extinguish the Virulence of the Prosecution projected by the said Patterfon against him.

This Fiction was plausible; but Mr. Walpole, who knew that his Innocence stood in Need of no such Means to suffice such an Evidence, rightly judged that this was a further Attempt to ensnare him: Told him that he suspected him to be an Accomplice with Patterfon; and that he would detain him, 'till he could give a satisfactory Account of his Character; and when Smith, with many Apologies, endeavoured to escape, Mr. Walpole seized him by the Collar, called in his Servants, secured him, and carried him before a Justice of the Peace for Examination; by whom he was committed to Reading Goal, where he was found by the injured Mr. Weekes, who brought him up to Newgate by a Habeas Corpus, and arraigned him for the Forgery as related before: To which Indictment he pleaded Guilty. And, at the Time he was called up to receive Sentence of Death, he moved the Court for Mercy in a most pathetic Speech, which has been printed in Gaz. No. 2.

Yet his Behaviour from his Entrance into Newgate, indicated a thorough Change of his Heart. He expressed the greatest and most unfeigned Horror, Shame, and Compunction for the Wickedness of his past Life, and did

I not neglect any Circumstance that could aggravate his Sense of Guilt, and augment his Contrition. He wished for Life, rather to employ it in Repentance, than for the Sake of Enjoyment, in which he could never have any Relish. And though he wished, and the Tenderness of his Prosecutor, who had recommended him to the Mercy of the Court, gave him some glimmering Hope; yet he built very little upon it, and seriously prepared himself for Eternity. Indeed, in the first Transports of his Agonies, on finding himself in the dead Warrant, and for some Time after, he inveighed bitterly against a certain Gentleman, and was ready to charge him with obstructing the Stream of Mercy, which he had expected from the Government. But being exhorted to a contrary Way of thinking, he was persuaded that his Life was a Debt due to the Public, and the Laws of the Land. When his Fetters were knocked off, he said that he freely forgave him. And then falling upon his Knees in the Press-yard, he addressed the Almighty in an extempore Prayer, so full of Penitence and Resignation, and with such a moving Tone of Voice, and Justness of Action, that all that heard him were exceedingly moved. He did the same when he was placed in the Cart; and at the Conclusion, all the By-standers said Amen to his pious Petitions for Peace, Mercy, and Grace.

As he was a very personable Man, aged 30, about five Feet eight Inches high, of a good manly Countenance, and well proportioned in his Features and Limbs, and graced with an admirable penetrating Eye, he drew uncommon Attention from the Populace in the Road to Tyburn. But he, all the Way, fixed his Eyes towards Heaven, imploring the Divine Mercy. And at the Place of Execution, he behaved with all the graceful Resolution of a Man, and all the pious Decencies of a Christian, invoking his dear Redeemer with his last Breath.

Thus, if the Life of this Criminal was pernicious to Society, his Death was of Utility to it, by strongly depicting the Calamities, in which a sensible Man may involve himself, when Vice so triumphantly exalts her Throne upon the Ruins of Reason, as to eradicate every bright and exalted Principle of Honour, Gratitude, and Integrity from the Soul.

Let the World, in this unhappy Man, behold an exemplary Instance of the Frailty attendant on the unguarded Hours, and joyous Follies of unwary Youth. His Life was a Scene of Guilt: His Death an instructive Scene of Misery. And let every one shun the Error of his Ways, and confess the Strength of a virtuous and liberal Education, to support the repenting Sinner in his last Moments.

From a Pamphlet lately published.

Mr. Archibald Bower's Motives for leaving his Office of Secretary to the Court of Inquisition at Macerata in Italy. With the Difficulties he met with in escaping from thence.

THE Person, who utters this Pamphlet into the World, begins with letting us know that it contains the Substance of a Relation which, he says, Mr. Bower gave of his Escape to Dr. Hill, Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, which the said Gentleman committed to Writing, soon after he had received it from Mr. Bower's Mouth. This last mentioned Gentleman has, indeed, advertised against it; but though some trifling Circumstances may possibly be misrepresented, the principal Facts are generally believed to be as he related them.

After mentioning a horrid Piece of Cruelty, exercised by the Office of Inquisition, which had deprived an innocent Gentleman of the Faculties of Reason, and made him continue the Remainder of his Life senseless and distracted, the Relater goes on;

But what determined him to leave them, when Opportunity offered, was the following Affair, which he relates thus:—As a Nobleman (a Friend of his) who was just married, was walking in his Garden with his Lady; two Capuchin Friars passed by with their Feet and Heads bare, and the mortifying Garb of their Order. When they were got to some little Distance, and, as he thought, out of Hearing, he expressed to his Wife his Surprise, that any Person could be so far infatuated, as to believe that such a particular Dress could be meritorious in the Sight of God.

Unhappily for him, he was overheard by the Friars, who made their Report to the Inquisition. Mr. Bower, as one of the Inquisitors, was ordered to take a sufficient Guard, which they always had in Waiting, to bring this unfortunate Friend before them. It would have been in vain for him to have expressed the Reluctance he inwardly felt; for the least Signs of it might have proved fatal to himself.

About the Middle of the Night, he and his Attendance appeared before the Nobleman's Door; when, upon their knocking, a Servant looked out of a Window, and enquiring who was there, was answered, the Holy Inquisition: Upon this, knowing the Consequence of a Refusal, he hastened down, opened the Door, and conducted them into the Bed-chamber, where the new-married Couple were fast asleep.

The first who awoke was the Lady, who, seeing such a Crew of Ruffians in the Room, screamed out, for which she was saluted by one of them with a Blow on the Face, that made the Blood gush out. Mr. Bower was much enraged at this, and asking the Fellow what Authority he had for such an unparalleled Piece of Cruelty, threatened him severely, and afterwards had him punished in an exemplary Manner.

This waked the Husband, who being very much surprized at what had happened, casting his Eyes on Mr. Bower, cried out, Ah, my Friend, is it you! Yes, he replied, it is; and you must immediately rise and follow me. This he soon complied with. Accordingly he was conducted to the Inquisition, where he was told, he was certainly guilty of some great Crime; and that he had a Week given him to recollect himself what it was, and so accuse himself.

All that Time he was confined in a Dungeon, and fed with nothing but Bread and Water, in order to weaken him, and render him less able to undergo the Torture.

At the End of the Week he was brought, in the Night, before the infernal Tribunal; and so altered, that he was scarce known to be the same: And upon his declaring that he was not conscious of any Thing culpable, he was led to the Torture, which was thus inflicted on him:

By Means of four Cords, which came over four Pullies, at each Corner of the Room, and met in the Center, he was hoisted up to the Ceiling, where, by a sudden Jerk, all his Bones were dislocated.

After he had hung some Time in this deplorable Condition, the Inquisitor-General, thinking he had not yet suffered enough, commanded them to slacken the Cords, in order to let him fall with a Shock to the Ground. This, after what had been done before, is thought to be one of the greatest Torments that human Nature is capable of sustaining. But when they came to inflict it, they found that the unhappy Man was already dead; upon which they buried him in a private Manner, and sent a Note to his Wife, desiring her to offer up Prayers for his Soul, in all the Churches in Rome.

After two such Pieces of unexampled Cruelty, and sanctified Villainy; in both of which, by Virtue of his Office, but in the latter more particularly, Mr. Bower had been so deeply, though reluctantly, concerned, he was determined, at all Events, to make his Escape from the Inquisition; being persuaded, that if he could get to England, the Place of his Birth, he should meet with Encouragement from some of his Countrymen; several of whom he had been acquainted with in their travels through Italy.

He was sensible of the Difficulties he had to encounter, none being suffered to travel without Leave first obtained from the Inquisitor-General. To him, therefore, he applied for a Permission to go on a Pilgrimage to Loretto, a Thing that he had hitherto long neglected.

The Inquisitor-General applauded his Resolution, and gave him Leave; but immediately dispatched an Express to Loretto, to know precisely the Time he arrived there.

Accordingly Mr. Bower set out on Horseback, and having armed himself with a Pocket-Pistol, was determined, in Case he found he could not otherwise escape, to dispatch himself; being persuaded, that, if ever Suicide was excusable, it must be in his Circumstances, in order to avoid the Torments, which, if he should be taken, would be inflicted on him.

After many Contests with himself, he continued firm to his original Project; and with Design to pursue it, crossed out of the Road not far from Loretto, and shaped his course towards Switzerland; knowing that if he could but reach Bern, a Protestant Canton, he should be safe. In order to attain it, he travelled Day and Night upon the Mountains; but at last, himself and Horse growing faint, for Want of Sustenance, he made up to a Town, which he took to be Bern; but which proved, to his great Concern, to be a Popish Canton. However, he alighted at an Inn, where there happened to be two Men who were reading a Paper, which, casting his Eyes upon it, he found to be a Description of himself; promising a great Reward for apprehending him.

He endeavoured to conceal his Confusion as much as he could, wiping his Face with a Handkerchief to prevent his being observed; till at last, one of the Men asking him why he wiped his Face, as if he was afraid of being seen, desired him to read that Paper; which he did, as he says, with great seeming Composure.

In the mean while, one of them whispered his Companion; and soon after they retired into a Room together, to consult whether they should apprehend him or not, as it was a hazardous Affair; it being possible that he might be a Courier of the British, or some other Minister.

Mr. Bower took this Opportunity to fly to his Horse, which he mounted with the utmost Expedition, and galloped into a neighbouring Forest, where he concealed himself for some Time, and afterwards pursued his Journey; subsisting himself, for several Days, upon nothing but what the Fields and Woods afforded. At last, his Horse, as well as himself, being almost worn out with Hunger and Fatigue, happening one Morning to spy a Light at a Distance, he made up to it at all Events; and, upon his knocking at the Door, a Man looked out at the Window, of whom he enquired whether it was a Protestant Country, to whom he replied, yes, thank God for it. Immediately upon hearing this joyful News, he desired him to come down and open the Door; for that he was the unfortunate Bower that had escaped from the Inquisition, and was now in the utmost Distress for Want of Rest and Food. Accordingly he alighted, and was received by the Landlord with the utmost Hospitality; who, upon his enquiring how far it was to Bern, informed him about two Miles; and offered himself for his Guide.

Upon his Arrival at Bern, he was advised, in order to avoid several Popish Countries, to take Shipping on the Rhine, as far as Strasburg. He embarked therefore on that River; and one of his Companions in the Vessel happened to be a Jesuit, who not knowing him, entered into Discourse with him about his own Escape from the Inquisition.

When they were got pretty near to Strasburg, the Ship bulged upon a Rock, so that they with great Difficulty escaped to Shore, where Mr. Bower immediately took Post-Horses for Calais. No sooner was he arrived there, and alighted at the Inn, than he saw, on the Gate, Advertisements describing him, and promising a Reward for apprehending him. This made him resolve to depart as soon as possible; so that he went down to the Shore, in order to see if there was any Vessel ready to sail for England; but to his great Mortification, found none; and, the Wind being high, could not prevail with any to put to Sea.

At last, for a considerable Sum of Money, he engaged some Fishermen to carry him over. Scarce had they set Sail, but the Waves ran so high, that the Men declared it impossible to succeed, for that no Boat could live. In vain he offered them all he was worth, in Case they would venture; for all their Reply was, that he certainly must have been guilty of some very great Crime, to attempt to run so great a Hazard. Accordingly they put back, and landed again.

But instead of going to the same Inn, he went to another; where thinking he heard, in the next Room, the Voice of some English Gentlemen, he determined to discover himself to them, being of Opinion that no Persons, so merry and chearful as they appeared to be, could harbour any Ill-will against him.

Animated by these Reflections, he knocked at the Door; and, to his great Satisfaction, the first that came to him was Lord Baltimore, with whom he had before some small Acquaintance.

His Lordship was much surprized at seeing him there, but told him that he had no Time to lose, for that strict Search had been made after him, and Spies planted about every Person that went for England. In short, he accompanied him to the Sea-Shore, and offered him his own Yacht to carry him over, in which he immediately embarked, and soon landed safe at Dover.

The next Day, Mr. Bower was much surprized with a Letter brought in, directed to him; but much more when upon opening it, he found it came from the Inquisitor-General; with Promises of great Honour and Rewards, in Case he would Return to the Inquisition.

This,

This, it seems, being left undirected, was ordered to be delivered to him, as soon as it was certainly known that he was arrived in England; but upon his Enquiry for the Person who brought it, no body could tell what was become of him. However, he had seen too much already, to rely on what they promised; and contented himself with expressing his Gratitude to God, for happily escaping out of their Clutches, and safely arriving in a Free and Protestant Country.

To the PRINTER.

April 9, 1751.

Mr. HUNTER,

I find, by reading your *Gazette*, that the Promoters of Religion and Virtue have now the Liberty of the Press, whereby they may communicate their Sentiments to the Public, without offending, either the or the Pr---t---r. This encourages me to send you the inclosed Copy of a Letter, which was transmitted to me, a few Days ago, by a very worthy Clergyman, whose greatest Ambition is to do all the Good he can. The Publication of it will, I hope, oblige every sober honest Man in the Colony, as well as

Your constant Reader, &c.

Copy of a Letter lately sent by a Clergyman to the King's Attorney of that County wherein he resides, with Relation to Ordinaries.

S I R,

IT being reported, That Application is intended shortly to be made to the Court of this County, for a Licence to open a new Ordinary in this Parish, I make it my earnest Request to you, as King's Attorney, to oppose the Motion. And this I am mov'd to do, as it is notorious, that Ordinaries are now, in a great Measure, perverted from their original Intention, and proper Use; viz. the Reception, Accommodation, and Refreshment of the weary and benighted Traveller; (which Ends they least serve or answer) and are become the common Receptacle, and Rendezvous of the very Dreggs of the People; even of the most lazy and dissolute that are to be found in their respective Neighbourhoods, where not only Time and Money are, vainly and unprofitably, squandered away, but (what is yet worse) where prohibited and unlawful Games, Sports, and Pastimes are used, followed, and practised, almost without any Intermission; namely Cards, Dice, Horse-racing, and Cock-fighting, together with Vices and Enormities of every other Kind, and where (their inferable Companions, or Concomitants) Drunkenness, Swearing, Cursing, Perjury, Blasphemy, Cheating, Lying, and Fighting, are not only tolerated, (or conniv'd at) but permitted with Impunity; nay, abound to the greatest Excess; reign arbitrary and free from the least Control; just as if every one of the Guests were of Opinion that those Houses, and the Yards adjoining thereto, were enfranchised with unlimited Privileges; and neither subject to the Laws of Man, nor yet to the Inspection and Authority of God himself. Nay some have observ'd, that were Schools to be opened for the training up, instructing, and qualifying Men for the High-way, Rider's Gang, or any other Part of Satan's Service, Masters might thence be furnished; Proficients so able in these illiberal Arts and Sciences, as not to be out-done or over-matched elsewhere. And as you, Sir, and many other worthy Gentlemen are well apprized that this is no Exaggeration, but a just Representation of the Case, the real Truth, and Matter of Fact, it cannot be thought strange if serious People wish to see some Regulation tending towards a Redress of such outrageous Grievances; and some of those (too numerous) Nurseries of Vice suppressed. I therefore, among many other Well-wishers that Way, make it my humble Petition to you, to use your utmost Interest with the worshipful Court of this County, that no more Ordinaries may be licensed therein; at least within those Precincts where the Interest of Religion (to which they are diametrically opposite) is lodged in the unworthy Hands of

Sir,

Your humble Servant,

A. B.

PARIS, December 24.

COL. de Bellidor had a few Days ago the Honour to present his Majesty with a Continuation of his Hydraulic Architecture, when he addressed himself to his Majesty in the following Manner:

S I R,

I take the Liberty to present to your Majesty the third Volume of the Hydraulic Architecture, the fourth of which will complete the only Work of the Kind, and about which I have been employed thirty-two Years. It contains a very particular Account of the Manner of erecting all Sorts of Works belonging to Maritime Places, so as to improve them either for War or Trade, together with the Art of making Rivers navigable, and joining them by Means of Canals; the Manner of draining the Water out of low Situations, and watering those that are dry. The favourable Reception with which your Majesty honoured my former Productions, raised my Emulation beyond all Bounds, and, far from being frightened at the Difficulty of so great and laborious an Undertaking, I was the more strongly induced to be instrumental in promoting the Glory of your Majesty. All the Nations that interest themselves in having any Work completed, will have an additional Motive to acknowledge, that it is owing to the Encouragement your Majesty gives to such of your Subjects as apply themselves to the perfecting of Arts and Sciences, that France daily produces so many noble Works.

Naples, Dec. 24. The Court has ordered many more Xebecques to be built, in order to chase the Barbary Corsairs, who continue to infest our Coasts, as well as those of Sicily; and 'tis now positively said, that an Association is at last agreed upon between some certain Powers, which 'tis hoped will be sufficient to curb the growing Insolence of those Rovers. The Governor of the Fortress of Pantellaria, on the Coasts of Sicily, has been deposed and put under Arrest, on Account of the Escape of Don Antony Filomarino.

L O N D O N,

January 4. Some Time last Week a Dispute arose between two Gentlemen of Malden in Essex, about the Size of a Waistcoat that belong'd to the late Mr. Edward Bright of that Town, so much talk'd of for his extraordinary Bulk; the one affirming that he could button five Men of the Age of twenty-one, then resident there, within it, without breaking a Stitch or straining a Button, the other positively denying it, a Wager ensued, which was determined last Saturday in Favour of the Affirmant, when not only five, but seven Men were with the greatest Ease included; and 'tis remarkable this Waistcoat was sent to the Taylor's to be let out, being too little for him, but his Death put a Stop to the design'd Alteration.

They write from Rome, that the Duke of Modena having represented to the Pope the vast Debt he contracted during the late War, and desired Permission to lay a Tax on the Clergy of his Dominions, in such a Manner as that the same should amount to the Half of what the Rest of his Subjects shall be obliged to pay towards discharging the said Debt; his Holiness has granted the Duke a Bull for this Purpose, and the Bishop of Modena has convoked a general Assembly of the Clergy both Regular and Secular, in order to make an Assessment in as easy and equitable a Manner as possible.

We learn from Hamburgh, that strong Instances have been lately made to the Empress of Russia in Favour of the Jews, that they might have Leave to settle again in the Cities of that Empire, or only in a few Towns, as the Court might think proper; in Consideration of which Instances, they would pay a considerable Sum to the Government. But these Instances, though back'd by powerful Recommendations from abroad, have proved fruitless, by Reason of the fixed Resolution her Imperial Majesty has taken, never more to suffer any Jews to settle in her Dominions; because it was found, that by Means of their trading Correspondences they also held illicit Correspondences, and frequently dabbled in Intrigues against the Government, besides that they used to be instrumental in sending large Sums out of the Empire: In other Respects they don't deny that the Jews were someway useful in Russia, for besides their being great Traders, they held most of the Inns and Post-Houses on the Roads, and paid high Rents to the Crown for the same.

Charles-Town, in South Carolina, November 4.

On the 27th ult. arrived here the Dispatch Snow, John Powell Master, bound from Jamaica for London, but taken off Pointe-a-Pierre, by a Spanish Galley, and carried into the Havanna, where she was detain'd 14 Weeks (to wait the Event of a Law-suit the Spaniards oblig'd the Captain to enter into) and plundered of her Sails, and what other Things they could readily come at, that would not disable her from putting to Sea again, and then restored her to her Owner. There are arriv'd in the Dispatch Capt. Kamm, of a Ship belonging to Philadelphia; Capt. Wray, of a Boston Schooner (both taken in or near the Bay of Honduras, laden with Logwood, and condemned at Havanna) and Capt. Rench, of the Wells Galley, belonging to St. Christophers. Rench was bound from Virginia to Coracoa, with a Cargo of Lumber and three Horses; but falling to Leeward, in beating up he expended all his Provisions; upon which he bore away to go thro' the Gulph, and put into the Havanna, where, instead of getting it, his Vessel was seized and detain'd, as an Example that others for the future may not dare to venture there, tho' in a starving Condition, which is the Reason given for the Proceedings.—We are inform'd by Capt. Powell, that there are two more English Vessels, lately taken and carried into Havanna, which are likely to be condemn'd there.—By this we see, that neither War nor Peace have put a Stop to illegal Seizures and Captures in the Spanish West-Indies.

WILLIAMSBURG, April 11.

Entries, in York River, from March 10 to April 10, 1751.

Entered Inwards.

Sloop Johnny, Matthew Delany, a new Vessel, enters to load with Corn, for Barbados.

Ship Everton, Thomas Rilly, from Liverpool.

Snow Pamuncy, Edward Neel, from Madeira.

Cleared Outwards.

Brigantine Abington, James Mudie, for Barbados.

Sloop Judith, Jefferson Power, for Barbados.

Sloop Fanny, John Thompson, for Barbados.

Sloop Merry Fellows, Thomas Perri, for Barbados.

Sloop Johnny, Matthew Delany, for Barbados.

Sloop Ruby, John Seymour, for Bermuda.

Snow Pelham, George Yulle, for London.

Virginia, ff.

By the Hon. LEWIS BURWELL, Esq; President of His Majesty's Council, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia.

A PROCLAMATION,

For Proroguing the GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY stands prorogued to the Third Thursday in April: And whereas I find no urgent Occasion for the said Assembly's Meeting at that Time; I have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Council, by this Proclamation, in His Majesty's Name, to prorogue the said Assembly to the First Thursday in June next; and the said Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand this Twenty Eighth Day of March, in the Twenty Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second.

LEWIS BURWELL, P.

GOD Save the KING.

N. B. The Proclamation requiring the Assembly to meet at this Time, inserted in the last Gazette, was by Mistake.

Robert Carter Nicholas.

M. Booth, and Company.

Robert Carter Nicholas

C. C. K.

Thomas Jones

34. 500

2004

Raw Data

Plus d'argent

Philip Barker

Robert Lyon.

Robert Lamm

Their humble servant

Yancy Miller

Will Hunter